

MARINE SAFETY BULLETIN

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SECURITY GUARD SHOOTING AT BASF TERMINAL, FREEPORT TEXAS

On Friday, January 23, 2004 at approximately 11pm local time, a suspicious individual in a white Chevrolet pickup truck shot a security guard on duty at BASF Terminal in Freeport, Texas in the shoulder. The security guard noticed the pickup truck parked at different locations along the perimeter of the terminal throughout the evening as he conducted his rounds. Each time the security guard moved toward the vehicle, the truck's lights came on, and the driver left the area. During the security guard's last round, he noticed the vehicle again and decided to approach. The driver spoke to the guard in broken English and said he was taking pictures. As the security guard returned to his vehicle to call dispatch, he was shot with a .357 Magnum on the backside of his left shoulder. The driver immediately fled the scene after the shooting. The security guard did not see a front license plate on the Chevrolet, and the rear license plate was obscured by the lowered tailgate.

The driver of the pickup truck was described a dark complexioned, mustached man with dark hair and an accent. He is still at large.

The security guard is in stable condition at a local hospital.

At this time, FBI does not believe that this incident involved terrorism.

The BASF Terminal consists of 16 plants, including an ammonia plant next to the deepwater cargo port. The facility produces adhesives, super absorbers, paints, nylons, and plastics.

All recipients of this bulletin are encouraged to report information concerning suspicious or criminal activity to local law enforcement and the Marine Safety Office at (504) 589-6261 or the National Response center via the 24-hour telephone number at 1-800-424-8802.